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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/061,064	01/23/2002	Evan Stephen Crandall	113397C	7625

7590

07/27/2006

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EXAMINER

TRAN, HAI V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/061,064

Applicant(s)

CRANDALL ET AL.

Examiner

Hai Tran

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1, 17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-16, 19-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.*
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 05/05/2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 05/05/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues, "The call is then forwarded directly to the correct end user without passing the public PSTN network."

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant and believes Applicant misconstrues Hansson' reference. The Examiner cites page 16. lines 1-page 17, lines 16 in which the communication via the PSTN network 16.

Applicant further argues, "Hansson ...does not disclose Determining a data communication network address based on an association between the recipient data communication network address and the recipient's voice communication network address"

In response, the Examiner again respectfully disagrees with Applicant and cites page 4, lines 23-25; page 12, lines 20-page 13, lines 25, page 15, lines 11-25, page 16, line 1-4, and Fig. 9, page 23, lines 28-page 24, lines 5, in which Hansson clearly explains how the telephony server 15 creates a dynamic relation between the IP address of the IP modem and the telephone number of user within the access network when the telephone server 15 receives an incoming call from an external network, i.e., PSTN or from an internal network, i.e., TV distribution network 8 of Fig. 9.

Applicant further argues, "Hansson does not disclose transmitting information from the sender to the recipient data communication network address that is also associated with a voice address "

In response, the Examiner again respectfully disagrees with Applicant and cites page 24, lines 6-23, Hansson further discloses in the context of intra-network communication apply to datacom, it would possible to tap a TV channel and send the information to PC 2 without passing any regular IP based network 14, i.e. Internet. In case of communication with an external IP network 14, this can be done through IP tunneling protocol, see page 13, lines 26-page 14, lines 31 and further explains how this could be done through IP-session, see page 15, lines 1-10 (see also page 12, lines 20-page 15, lines 1-10).

In view of that the Examiner maintains the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 2-9, and 11-16, 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hansson et al. (WO 97/47119).

Claim 21, a method of transmitting information from a sender to a recipient, the method comprising the step of :

Establishing a voice connection on a voice communication network between the sender and the recipient, the recipient having voice communication network address (telephone #) (see page 15, lines 13-page 17, lines 23; page 16, line 1-4; and page 23, Fig. 9, lines 27-31; for example user A makes a voice call user B's phone number)

Determining a recipient data communication network address based on an association between the recipient data communication network address and the recipient's voice communication network address (telephone #) (as disclosed at page 4, lines 23-25; page 12, lines 20-page 13, lines 25, page 15, lines 11-25 and Fig. 9, page 23, lines 28-page 24, lines 5, Hansson clearly explains how the telephony server 15 creates a dynamic relation between the IP address of the IP modem and the telephone number of user within the access network when the

telephone server 15 receives an incoming call from an external network, i.e., PSTN or from an internal network, i.e., TV distribution network 8 of Fig. 9) ; and

Transmitting information from the sender to the recipient data communication network address via a data network (page 24, lines 6-23, Hansson further discloses in the context of intra-network communication apply to datacom, it would possible to tap a TV channel and send the information to PC 2 without passing any regular IP based network 14, i.e. Internet. In case of communication with an external IP network 14, this can be done through IP tunneling protocol, see page 13, lines 26- page 14, lines 31 and further explains how this could be done through IP-session, see page 15, lines 1-10).

Claim 2, "wherein transmitting begins after the recipient authorizes the broadcast" reads on the fact that both the caller and the recipient is connected through the phone for after the connection is made between the caller and the recipient through the telephone network, thereby authorizing the transmitting to the caller. As such the caller initiates a message/information to the recipient through the CATV network 8 (page 24, lines 7-23);

Claim 3, "wherein the recipient authorizes the transmitting by remaining on the voice connection for a designated period of time" reads on the connection is done between two devices by per session; thus when the session is terminated by an "on hook", the connection is terminated (page 17, lines 18-24).

Claim 4, "wherein the recipient authorizes the transmitting by transmitting a signal across the voice communication network, after the voice connection has been established" reads on the recipient answers the call (page 18, lines 6-8).

Claim 5, "wherein the recipient authorizes the transmitting by transmitting a signal across the data network, after the voice connection has been established" reads on the recipient answers the call, as disclosed on page 18, lines 6-8, using Internet telephony (page 22, lines 4-11).

Claim 6, receiving input from the recipient or sender; changing the information transmitted to the recipient data communication network address based on the input from the recipient or sender (page 24, lines 16-18).

Claim 7, "wherein the input is a signal transmitted across the voice communication network," reads on the conversation between the caller and the recipient in which the caller/recipient (page 23, lines 27-page 24, lines 23).

Claim 8, "wherein the input is a signal transmitted across the data network" (page 13, lines 25-page 15, lines 10).

Claim 9, wherein the signal is a DTMF (page 19, lines 5-8).

Claim 11, wherein the sender is an automated interactive response system (Fig. 9; PC 2).

Claim 12, "further comprising the step of ending the broadcast of the information to the recipient data communication network address when the connection between the sender and the recipient ends" reads on the connection is

done between two devices by per session; thus when the session is terminated by an "on hook", the connection is terminated (page 17, lines 18-24).

Claims 13, 17 and 18 are analyzed with respect to method claim 21.

Claim 14, "means for initiating the connection on the voice communication network", page 15, lines 13-25);

Claim 15, "wherein the mean for transmitting is initiated by means for sending a signal to a server attached to the data network and capable of transmitting the information to the recipient data communication network address (page 15, lines 1-10 and page 23, lines 28-page 24, lines 25);

Claim 16 is analyzed with respect to claim 12.

Claim 19, wherein the voice communication network address is a telephone number (page 13, lines 9-12).

Claim 20, wherein the information is adapted for rendering on a television screen (page 24, lines 20-22).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hansson et al. (WO 97/47119).

Claim 10, Hansson does not clearly disclose the use of a voice command.

Official Notice is taken that the use of a voice command is notoriously well known in the data communication art, i.e. the user could say "Call 555-5555" and the system will recognize the command using the speech recognition and place a call using the stated phone number. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hansson to use voice commands so to provide to user a friendly device that presents to users options that are easily to understand as similar to the options provided by conventional voice mail.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher S. Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HT:ht
07/21/2006



HAITRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER